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## Hooperston man one of thousands at Promise Keepers event

Men - hundreds of thousands of them - gathered at The Mall, but their purpose was not to shop.

The men, from all over America, gathered Oct. 4 for a "Standing the Gap" rally sponsored by Promise Keepers.

Ryan Standifer of Hooperston was among those attending the six-hour rally in Washington, D.C.

Standifer and former Hooperston resident Jeremy Goodrum traveled by bus from Kentucky, where Goodrum currently lives, to the nation's capital to attend the rally.

"It was really wonderful," Standifer said. "It was pretty much a revival, like a spiritual awakening. We opened ourselves up for a spiritual examination, so to speak."

The rally was held on The Mall, an area in Washington, D.C. between the Capitol and Lincoln Memorial, Standifer said.

The event was sponsored by Promise Keepers, a national organization founded by former University of Colorado football coach Bill McCartney.

Promise Keepers is a men's organization whose purpose is to have men reclaim their roles as leaders of families by being better husbands and fathers, Standifer said.

The rally "focused a lot on the married guy," Standifer said. However, he said, all men could use information from the rally to improve relationships with parents, siblings and other family members. "It would apply more if I were married," he said, "but I do have a family."

To accomplish that, men listened to speakers, prayed and worshipped, "making ourselves vulnerable to God," Standifer said.

Men acknowledged their sins, weeping as they asked for forgiveness, Standifer said. "Some people were

fasting, repenting; confession was going on between guys.

Praise was another component of the rally. "To hear a million guys singing Amazing Grace is really moving," he said.

Standifer denied claims that the rally was in response

## Group based on seven promises

Promise Keepers, the men's Christian group founded in 1991 by former University of Colorado football coach Bill McCartney, is based on seven promises.

They are commitments for a man to:

1. honor Jesus Christ through worship, prayer and obedience to God's word in the power of the Holy Spirit.

2. pursue vital relationships with a few other men, understanding that he needs brothers to help him keep his promises.

3. practice spiritual, moral, ethical and sexual purity.

4. build strong marriages and families through love, protection and biblical values.

5. support his church by honoring and praying for his pastor and by giving his time and resources.

6. reach beyond racial and denominational barriers to demonstrate the power of biblical unity.

7. influence his world, being obedient to the great commandment and the great commission (Mark 12:30-31, Matthew 28:19-20).

For more information on Promise Keepers, contact the national office at P.O. Box 103001, Denver, CO., 80250-3001, telephone (800) 888-7595 or the North Central regional office, 6801 Lake Plaza Dr., Suite B-206, Indianapolis, IN., 46220, telephone (317) 578-7505/fax (317) 595-6769.

## Bosses Day is today

Mug, flowers & a balloon	\$15.00
Mug, candy & a balloon	\$15.00
Fudge & a balloon	\$ 6.98
A praline & a balloon	\$ 5.00
Peanut Brittle	\$ 3.00
Peanut Brittle, Fudge, Turtle	
Sampler with a balloon	\$10.00
A planter for his - or her - desk	
A picture frame	
<i>(lots more ideas)</i>	

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